

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (cancelled).
2. (currently amended) The clip of claim ~~14~~, wherein the arms and levers are paired diametrically with respect to the shank.
3. (previously presented) A clip comprising a flange larger than a through-hole in an attached member, a shank unitary with the flange and extending from the flange at one end of the shank to a predetermined height along a longitudinal axis of the shank for insertion into the through-hole, a pair of arms extending from an opposite end of the shank and hinged thereto for rotation relative to the shank, and levers extending from bases of respective arms, connected thereto for rotation with the arms, and providing spaces with respect to the arms for receiving portions of a through-hole section of the attached member between the arms and the levers, wherein, the clip is constructed so that in an initial posture of the clip, the arms extend

substantially axially of the shank beyond said opposite end of the shank, and the levers extend beyond said opposite end of the shank longitudinally away from the shank and laterally away from the shank to form acute angles with respect to the longitudinal axis of the shank, so that tip portions of the levers are disposed to engage one side of the attached member before the shank is inserted into the through-hole, and wherein the clip is constructed so that when the shank is inserted into the through-hole, the arms rotate together with the levers from the initial posture to an interposed posture at which the portions of the through-hole section of the attached member are received in the spaces, at which the levers are in contact with said one side of the attached member, the arms are substantially parallel to the flange and in contact with an opposite side of the attached member, and the flange is juxtaposed with the one side of the attached member, wherein the levers are hinged at a middle position thereof to allow a tip portion of the levers to rotate relative to base portion of the levers.

4. (previously presented) A clip comprising a flange larger than a through-hole in an attached member, a shank unitary with the flange and extending from the flange at one

end of the shank to a predetermined height along a longitudinal axis of the shank for insertion into the through-hole, a pair of arms extending from an opposite end of the shank and hinged thereto for rotation relative to the shank, and levers extending from bases of respective arms, connected thereto for rotation with the arms, and providing spaces with respect to the arms for receiving portions of a through-hole section of the attached member between the arms and the levers, wherein, the clip is constructed so that in an initial posture of the clip, the arms extend substantially axially of the shank beyond said opposite end of the shank, and the levers extend beyond said opposite end of the shank longitudinally away from the shank and laterally away from the shank to form acute angles with respect to the longitudinal axis of the shank, so that tip portions of the levers are disposed to engage one side of the attached member before the shank is inserted into the through-hole, and wherein the clip is constructed so that when the shank is inserted into the through-hole, the arms rotate together with the levers from the initial posture to an interposed posture at which the portions of the through-hole section of the attached member are received in the spaces, at which the levers are in contact with said one side of the attached member, the arms are substantially

parallel to the flange and in contact with an opposite side of the attached member, and the flange is juxtaposed with the one side of the attached member, wherein each arm has an arm-end locking pawl at the base thereof extending towards the flange when the arm is in the interposed posture, and wherein cooperable flange-end locking pawls are formed on the flange to engage the arm-end locking pawls and keep the arms in the interposed posture.

5. (previously presented) The clip of claim 4, wherein a protrusion is formed on each arm protruding a fixed height from the opposite end of the shank when the arm is in the interposed posture, and wherein a force to engage each arm-end locking pawl with the cooperable flange-end locking pawl is obtained from pressure on the protrusions.

6. (currently amended) The clip of claim ~~4~~4, wherein the shank and the arms are connected by breakable thin webs for reliably keeping the arms and levers in the initial posture.

7. (original) The clip of claim 4, wherein the arm-end locking pawls and the flange are connected by breakable

thin webs for reliably keeping the arms and levers in the initial posture.

8. (currently amended) ~~The clip of claim 1A~~ clip comprising a flange larger than a through-hole in an attached member, a shank unitary with the flange and extending from the flange at one end of the shank to a predetermined height along a longitudinal axis of the shank for insertion into the through-hole, a pair of arms extending from an opposite end of the shank and having base portions connected thereto by hinges for rotation of the arms relative to the shank, and levers extending from respective arms, and having base portions connected to the base portions of the respective arms adjacent to the hinges for rotation of the levers with the arms, and providing spaces with respect to the arms for receiving portions of a through-hole section of the attached member between the arms and the levers, wherein, the clip is constructed so that in an initial posture of the clip, the arms extend substantially axially of the shank beyond said opposite end of the shank, and the levers extend beyond said opposite end of the shank longitudinally away from the shank and laterally away from the shank to form acute angles with respect to the longitudinal axis of the shank, so that tip

portions of the levers are disposed to engage one side of
the attached member before the shank is inserted into the
through-hole, and wherein the clip is constructed so that
when the shank is inserted into the through-hole, the arms
rotate together with the levers from the initial posture to
an interposed posture at which the portions of the through-
hole section of the attached member are received in the
spaces, at which the levers are in contact with said one
side of the attached member, the arms are substantially
parallel to the flange and in contact with an opposite side
of the attached member, and the flange is juxtaposed with
the one side of the attached member, wherein boundary
surfaces of the spaces between the arms and the levers
contact curved boundary surface portions of the through-hole
of the attached member and are similarly curved.

9. (previously presented) A clip comprising a flange
larger than a through-hole in an attached member, a shank
unitary with the flange and extending from the flange at one
end of the shank to a predetermined height along a
longitudinal axis of the shank for insertion into the
through-hole, a pair of arms extending from an opposite end
of the shank and hinged thereto for rotation relative to the
shank, and levers extending from bases of respective arms,

connected thereto for rotation with the arms, and providing spaces with respect to the arms for receiving portions of a through-hole section of the attached member between the arms and the levers, wherein, the clip is constructed so that in an initial posture of the clip, the arms extend substantially axially of the shank beyond said opposite end of the shank, and the levers extend beyond said opposite end of the shank longitudinally away from the shank and laterally away from the shank to form acute angles with respect to the longitudinal axis of the shank, so that tip portions of the levers are disposed to engage one side of the attached member before the shank is inserted into the through-hole, and wherein the clip is constructed so that when the shank is inserted into the through-hole, the arms rotate together with the levers from the initial posture to an interposed posture at which the portions of the through-hole section of the attached member are received in the spaces, at which the levers are in contact with said one side of the attached member, the arms are substantially parallel to the flange and in contact with an opposite side of the attached member, and the flange is juxtaposed with the one side of the attached member, wherein the shank has a hollow section to accommodate a threaded stud, and wherein

the hollow section has a pawl for engaging the threaded stud.

10. (previously presented) A clip comprising a flange larger than a through-hole in an attached member, a shank unitary with the flange and extending from the flange at one end of the shank to a predetermined height along a longitudinal axis of the shank for insertion into the through-hole, a pair of arms extending from an opposite end of the shank and hinged thereto for rotation relative to the shank, and levers extending from bases of respective arms, connected thereto for rotation with the arms, and providing spaces with respect to the arms for receiving portions of a through-hole section of the attached member between the arms and the levers, wherein, the clip is constructed so that in an initial posture of the clip, the arms extend substantially axially of the shank beyond said opposite end of the shank, and the levers extend beyond said opposite end of the shank longitudinally away from the shank and laterally away from the shank to form acute angles with respect to the longitudinal axis of the shank, so that tip portions of the levers are disposed to engage one side of the attached member before the shank is inserted into the through-hole, and wherein the clip is constructed so that

when the shank is inserted into the through-hole, the arms rotate together with the levers from the initial posture to an interposed posture at which the portions of the through-hole section of the attached member are received in the spaces, at which the levers are in contact with said one side of the attached member, the arms are substantially parallel to the flange and in contact with an opposite side of the attached member, and the flange is juxtaposed with the one side of the attached member, wherein the shank has a hollow section to accommodate a rod-shaped object such as a stud or bolt, and wherein the hollow section is devoid of a pawl.

11. (cancelled).

12. (currently amended) ~~A clip according to claim 11A~~
clip for attachment to a sheet member via a through-hole in the sheet member, comprising:

a shank having unitarily therewith at one end a flange to be disposed at one side of the sheet member against a through-hole section of the sheet member, the shank having cross-dimensions parallel to the flange and having a length along a longitudinal axis perpendicular to the flange to permit the shank to be inserted through the through-hole in

the sheet member from an initial posture to an interposed posture;

a pair of arms having base portions connected by hinges to an end of the shank opposite to the flange and projecting substantially axially of the shank in the initial posture for insertion into the through-hole in advance of the shank; and

a pair of levers having base portions attached to the base portions of respective arms adjacent to the hinges and projecting beyond said opposite end of the shank longitudinally away from the shank and laterally away from the shank to form acute angles with respect to the longitudinal axis of the shank so that in the initial posture tip portions of the levers are disposed for engagement with said one side of the sheet member,

wherein the construction of the clip is such that as the shank is inserted into the through-hole, the arms and the levers rotate to the interposed posture, at which the arms contact a side of the sheet member opposite to said one side, the levers contact said one side of the sheet member, portions of the through-hole section are received in spaces between the arms and the respective levers, and the flange contacts the levers and is juxtaposed with said one side of the sheet member, wherein each arm and a portion of the

flange have cooperable pawls that engage one another to maintain the interposed posture.

13. (currently amended) A clip according to claim ~~11~~12, wherein each lever has a hinge at a middle portion so that a tip portion of the lever can bend relative to the base portion of the lever when the tip portion engages said one side of the sheet member.

14. (currently amended) A clip according to claim ~~11~~12, wherein each arm has a protrusion that faces away from the sheet member in the interposed posture.

15. (currently amended) ~~A clip according to claim 11A~~
clip for attachment to a sheet member via a through-hole in the sheet member, comprising:

a shank having unitarily therewith at one end a flange to be disposed at one side of the sheet member against a through-hole section of the sheet member, the shank having cross-dimensions parallel to the flange and having a length along a longitudinal axis perpendicular to the flange to permit the shank to be inserted through the through-hole in the sheet member from an initial posture to an interposed posture;

a pair of arms having base portions connected by hinges to an end of the shank opposite to the flange and projecting substantially axially of the shank in the initial posture for insertion into the through-hole in advance of the shank; and

a pair of levers having base portions attached to the base portions of respective arms adjacent to the hinges and projecting beyond said opposite end of the shank longitudinally away from the shank and laterally away from the shank to form acute angles with respect to the longitudinal axis of the shank so that in the initial posture tip portions of the levers are disposed for engagement with said one side of the sheet member,

wherein the construction of the clip is such that as the shank is inserted into the through-hole, the arms and the levers rotate to the interposed posture, at which the arms contact a side of the sheet member opposite to said one side, the levers contact said one side of the sheet member, portions of the through-hole section are received in spaces between the arms and the respective levers, and the flange contacts the levers and is juxtaposed with said one side of the sheet member, wherein the shank has a hollow section for receiving a stud therein.

16. (original) A clip according to claim 15, wherein the shank has at least one pawl inside the hollow section for engaging a threaded stud.

17. (currently amended) A clip according to claim ~~11~~12, wherein each arm has a breakable element for maintaining the initial posture of the arm.

18. (currently amended) ~~The clip of claim 11~~A clip for attachment to a sheet member via a through-hole in the sheet member, comprising:

a shank having unitarily therewith at one end a flange to be disposed at one side of the sheet member against a through-hole section of the sheet member, the shank having cross-dimensions parallel to the flange and having a length along a longitudinal axis perpendicular to the flange to permit the shank to be inserted through the through-hole in the sheet member from an initial posture to an interposed posture;

a pair of arms having base portions connected by hinges to an end of the shank opposite to the flange and projecting substantially axially of the shank in the

initial posture for insertion into the through-hole in
advance of the shank; and

a pair of levers having base portions attached to the
base portions of respective arms adjacent to the hinges
and projecting beyond said opposite end of the shank
longitudinally away from the shank and laterally away from
the shank to form acute angles with respect to the
longitudinal axis of the shank so that in the initial
posture tip portions of the levers are disposed for
engagement with said one side of the sheet member,

wherein the construction of the clip is such that as
the shank is inserted into the through-hole, the arms and
the levers rotate to the interposed posture, at which the
arms contact a side of the sheet member opposite to said
one side, the levers contact said one side of the sheet
member, portions of the through-hole section are received
in spaces between the arms and the respective levers, and
the flange contacts the levers and is juxtaposed with said
one side of the sheet member, wherein each arm has an arm-
end locking pawl at the base portion thereof extending
towards the flange when the arm is in the interposed
posture, and wherein cooperable flange-end locking pawls are

formed on the shank near the flange to engage the arm-end locking pawls and keep the arms in the interposed posture.

19. (currently amended) ~~A clip according to claim 11A~~
clip for attachment to a sheet member via a through-hole in
the sheet member, comprising:

a shank having unitarily therewith at one end a flange
to be disposed at one side of the sheet member against a
through-hole section of the sheet member, the shank having
cross-dimensions parallel to the flange and having a length
along a longitudinal axis perpendicular to the flange to
permit the shank to be inserted through the through-hole in
the sheet member from an initial posture to an interposed
posture;

a pair of arms having base portions connected by
hinges to an end of the shank opposite to the flange and
projecting substantially axially of the shank in the
initial posture for insertion into the through-hole in
advance of the shank; and

a pair of levers having base portions attached to the
base portions of respective arms adjacent to the hinges
and projecting beyond said opposite end of the shank
longitudinally away from the shank and laterally away from

the shank to form acute angles with respect to the longitudinal axis of the shank so that in the initial posture tip portions of the levers are disposed for engagement with said one side of the sheet member,

wherein the construction of the clip is such that as the shank is inserted into the through-hole, the arms and the levers rotate to the interposed posture, at which the arms contact a side of the sheet member opposite to said one side, the levers contact said one side of the sheet member, portions of the through-hole section are received in spaces between the arms and the respective levers, and the flange contacts the levers and is juxtaposed with said one side of the sheet member, wherein each arm and a portion of the flange end of the shank have cooperable pawls that engage one another to maintain the interposed posture.

20. (previously presented) The clip of claim 18, wherein a protrusion is formed on each arm protruding a fixed height from the opposite end of the shank when the arm is in the interposed posture, and wherein a force to engage each arm-end locking pawl with the cooperable flange-end locking pawl is obtained from pressure on the protrusions.